

**MINUTES**  
**YORK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
Work Session  
301 Main Street  
September 13, 2000  
8:05 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Spencer Semmes called the work session to order at 8:05 PM. Commissioners present were Robert E. Beil, Robert D. Heavner, Michael H. Hendricks, Spencer W. Semmes, Thomas G. Shepperd, and Ann F. White. Commissioner Andrew A. Simasek was absent. Also present were County Attorney James E. Barnett, Jr. and Planning staff Robert A. Baldwin, Timothy C. Cross, Michael S. King and Olivia D. Wilkinson.

**SIGNS**

Mr. Cross introduced his memorandum to the Commission entitled "Zoning Ordinance Review – Article VII, Signs," dated July 5. This item was on the agenda for a Commission work session July 12, 2000, but that meeting was canceled. Mr. Cross distributed a handout containing photographic examples of signs in York County.

Discussion took place concerning support structures for monument signs, allowing multiple signs at one site or on the same monument structure, attractiveness of signage versus benefit to business, limiting the number of flags allowed for display, and height of pole signs. The Commission also discussed whether the background area for wall-mounted signs, when it contains a corporate color or a feature of the corporate logo, should be considered a part of the sign area or an architectural feature made to "look like a sign" by spreading the letters out. Mr. Baldwin said staff would further investigate the issue based on the Commission's interest in potentially addressing this design issue.

Mr. Beil believed that service station canopies-as-signs should be treated the same way as stationary signs.

Mr. Baldwin said the revisions, if adopted, would encourage sign placements closer to a driver's line of vision than is now required.

Mr. Cross explained that, while the revisions would not be retroactive, existing signs that do not meet the proposed requirements would be nonconforming and the provisions would apply to them if and when they are replaced.

The Commissioners by consensus agreed to support the staff recommendations contained in the memorandum dated July 5, 2000.

**FORESTRY**

Mr. Baldwin remarked on the staff report to the Commission dated August 11, 2000 entitled, "Zoning Ordinance Revision – Forestry," noting its proposal for minor "clean-up" revisions.

Following the Commission's review and limited discussion, the members agreed to support the staff recommendations contained in the memorandum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Semmes called adjournment at 9:10 p.m.

**SUBMITTED:** \_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis P. Liscum, Secretary

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** October 11, 2000  
Spencer W. Semmes, Chair